

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 CU-02 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 OES-07
EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 IO-13 /101 W
-----040943Z 123279 /15

P R 040733Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8432
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST SECTION 1 OF 2 BUDAPEST 1453

E.O. 11652/ GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, HU
SUBJECT: MONITORING OF CSCE IMPLEMENTATION BY HUNGARY

REF: (A) 76 STATE 84043, (B) 76 STATE 224882,
(C) 76 BUDAPEST 3752

1. CSCE OVERVIEW: IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE OF IMPROVING U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS AFTER SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT TO MOSCOW, HUNGARIAN OFFICIALS DURING VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN IN EARLY APRIL EXPRESSED SOME NERVOUSNESS
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OVER FUTURE COURSE OF DETENTE AND CSCE IMPLEMENTATION. LACK OF PROGRESS SINCE LAST NOVEMBER IN RESOLVING ANY OF THE SEVEN OUTSTANDING FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES ON EMBASSY'S CURRENT PROBLEM
LIST POSSIBLY REFLECTS GOH FEARS THAT A COOLING PERIOD IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS MAY BE IN STORE, AND MAY ALSO REFLECT NEGATIVE GOH REACTION TO STATEMENTS

ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY U.S. LEADERS. NEVERTHELESS, TREND OF LAST SIX MONTHS OF 1976 AND FIRST FEW MONTHS OF THIS YEAR HAS BEEN FOR CONTINUED SLOW IMPROVEMENT IN HUNGARY'S IMPLEMENTATION OF HELSINKI FINAL ACT, AT LEAST IN SELECTED AREAS.

2. SECRETARY HARTMAN SIGNED THE U.S.-HUNGARIAN CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT WHILE HE WAS HERE AND THE GOH HAS GIVEN EMBASSY ITS PROGRAM DOCUMENT DRAFT WHICH USG NOW HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION. HUNGARIAN FIRMS ARE SHOWING SOMEWHAT GREATER SIGNS OF INTEREST IN JOINT ECONOMIC VENTURES WITH AMERICAN FIRMS. AMERICAN, WEST GERMAN, AND OTHER WESTERN LEADERS ARE BEING SHOWN MORE FREQUENTLY ON TELEVISION IN INTERVIEW AND NEWS PROGRAMS AND WESTERN VIEWS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED BY JOURNALISTS IN SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT TV DEBATES WITH EASTERN COUNTERPARTS. THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT A WIDER RANGE OF INDIVIDUALS, YOUNGER PEOPLE, AND SINGLE PERSONS ARE RECEIVING PERMISSION TO VISIT FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN THE U.S. GROUP TOURS TO THE U.S. HAVE ALSO BEEN MORE FREQUENT.

3. WHILE FOLLOWING SOVIET LINE ON EASTERN REACTION TO U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, HUNGARIAN MEDIA HAVE REMAINED CALM AND FOR THE MOST PART AVOIDED VITRIOLIC REPORTAGE AND COMMENTARY. IN DISCUSSING FORTHCOMING BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JANOS NAGY INDICATED A BASIC IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON WHAT WAS TO BE ATTEMPTED AT THE CONFERENCE AND ON CONFERENCE

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PROCEDURES. DOUBTLESS, THE HUNGARIANS, LIKE THEIR ALLIES, WISH TO MINIMIZE DETAILED REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES, BUT IT ALSO APPEARS THEY ARE WILLING TO STOMACH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CRITICISM. THEY APPEAR TO HOPE ALSO TO USE THE CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPING FURTHER EAST-WEST COOPERATION.

4. TALKS ON MARCH 31 BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MFA ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION TOOK PLACE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE (BUDAPEST 1087 AND A-26) AND RANGED OVER EVERY FACET OF HELSINKI FINAL ACT. FEW CONCRETE MEASURES FOR BILATERAL STEPS TO IMPLEMENT ACT ARE PROJECTED FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE BUT BOTH SIDES AGREED TO EXAMINE FURTHER VISA FACILITATION AND ENCOMPASS CERTAIN PROPOSALS UNDER U.S.-HUNGARIAN CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT. AT SAME TIME, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NAGY, WHO CHAIRED TALKS FOR HUNGARIAN SIDE, INDICATED SOME POSSIBLE FLEXIBILITY ON IMPROVED HUNGARIAN UNILATERAL IMPLEMENTATION WITH RESPECT TO CBM'S AND IN OTHER AREAS IF GENERAL EAST-

WEST RELATIONSHIP CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

5. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE KEYED TO CHECKLISTS IN
REFTELS A AND B. STATISTICS ARE FOR PERIOD JULY 1 TO
DECEMBER 31, 1976, BUT REMARKS APPLY TO EARLY MONTHS
OF 1977 AS WELL.

6. WORKING CONDITIONS FOR BUSINESSMEN:

- A) NO CHANGE.
- B) NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE, THOUGH NEW FOREIGN BANK
REPRESENTATIVE LAW HAS FORMALIZED MEANS FOR ESTABLISHING
BANK OFFICES. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE ADVISES THAT
THERE ARE NO PENDING APPLICATIONS BY U.S. FIRMS FOR
OFFICES IN BUDAPEST.
- C) LONG-GESTATING HILTON HOTEL WAS OPENED ON
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JANUARY 1, AND HAS EASED CHRONIC SPACE SHORTAGE FOR
AFFLUENT BUSINESSMEN. SEVERAL OTHER HOTELS ARE IN
VARIOUS STATES OF PLANNING, THOUGH NO CONSTRUCTION
HAS BZTUN. RESIDENTIAL HOUSING SCENE REMAINS AS TIGHT
AS EVER WITH NO RELIEF IN SIGHT.

- D) NO CHANGE.
- E) WE HAVE RECENTLY SEEN SIGNS THAT MAGYARS ARE
INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN JOINT VENTURES WITH U.S.
FIRMS RATHER THAN MORE TRADITIONAL FORMS OF COOPERATION
(BUDAPEST 0827). THIS APPEARS TO BE A DIRECT RESULT OF
A DECISION BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER (76 BUDAPEST
3327). SINCE LAST REPORT A COOPERATION AGREEMENT HAS
BEEN SIGNED BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER AND RABA
FOR MANUFACTURE OF LARGE FARM IMPLEMENTS SUITABLE FOR
USE ON HYBRID RABA-STEIGER TRACTOR. ANOTHER COOPERATION
AGREEMENT HAS BEEN MADE IN THE ARC FURNACE FIELD.

7. FAMILY MEETINGS:

- A) VISAS ISSUED FOR VISITS TO FAMILY MEMBERS IN
U.S.: 2084.
- B) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DIFFICULTIES/DELAYS: NO
CHANGES EXCEPT THAT WE HAVE BEGUN TO NOTICE MORE OR LESS
CONSISTENTLY A GREATER NUMBER OF YOUNGER, WORKING-AGE
HUNGARIANS, AND SINGLE PERSONS, BEING PERMITTED TO VISIT
RELATIVES IN THE U.S. SOMETIMES RELATIVES VISITED ARE
QUITE DISTANT; OCCASIONALLY APPLICANTS ARE VISITING ONLY
FRIENDS. TREND INDICATES GREATER GOH LENIENCY IN GRANTING
VISIT EXIT PERMISSIONS. ALTHOUGH ABOVE FIGURE OF 2084 IS

LOWER THAN 4188 ISSUANCES PREVIOUSLY REPORTED FOR FIRST
SIX MONTHS OF 1976, IT REFLECTS A SLACK SEASON PERIOD.
1976 NIV WORKLOAD PEAKED JUST PRIOR TO JULY 4 BICENTENNIAL
AND MONTREAL OLYMPICS PERIOD. (HISTORICALLY, BUDAPEST
NIV ISSUANCES FOR LAST SIX MONTHS OF ANY CALENDAR YEAR
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REPRESENT ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF TOTAL YEAR'S WORKLOAD.)

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AMEMBASSY MOSRZW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BUDAPEST 1453

E.O. 11652: GDS

FAMILY-VISIT ISSUANCES FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1977
WERE AS FOLLOWS (1976 IN PARENTHESES): JANUARY 159

(158), FEBRUARY 245 (209), MARCH 526 (488).

C) NO CHANGES EXCEPT AS ABOVE FOR HUNGARIANS. NO CHANGES FOR U.S. VISITORS TO HUNGARY.

8. FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS:

A) IMMIGRANT VISAS ISSUED FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION: 71.
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B) NOT APPLICABLE (IN PAST INFO FURNISHED BY DEPARTMENT).

C) BUDAPEST'S CURRENT DIVIDED FAMILY PROBLEM LIST NUMBERS SEVEN CASES INVOLVING TWELVE INDIVIDUALS IN HUNGARY. IN ADDITION WE HAVE TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED AN ADDITIONAL NINE CASES (ELEVEN INDIVIDUALS) AS POSSIBLE FUTURE PROBLEM ONES IF APPLICANTS DO NOT OBTAIN REQUESTED EMIGRATION PERMISSIONS.

- D) NO CHANGE.
- E) NO CHANGE.
- F) NO CHANGE.

9. BINATIONAL MARRIAGES:

A) NUMBER OF BINATIONAL MARRIAGES RECORDED AT EMBASSY: 26

B) U.S. FIANCEE VISAS ISSUED: 3.

C) EMBASSY IS AWARE OF NO HUNGARIANS INTENDING MARRIAGE IN U.S. WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED HUNGARIAN EXIT PERMISSION. HOWEVER, TWO CASES ON OUR DIVIDED FAMILY PROBLEM LIST INVOLVE HUSBANDS OF USC'S WHO, AFTER MARRIAGE IN HUNGARY, HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION TO LEAVE TO JOIN THEIR WIVES IN U.S. BECAUSE OF HUNGARIAN MILITARY SERVICE OBLIGATION.

- D) NO CHANGE.

10. TRAVEL AND TOURISM:

A) NUMBER OF "TOURIST" VISAS ISSUED (AS DISTINGUISHED FROM VISAS FOR VISITS TO RELATIVES/FRIENDS): NIL. HUNGARIANS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO SUFFICIENT HARD CURRENCY TO FINANCE WON TOURIST TRAVEL TO U.S.; RELATIVES OR FRIENDS IN WEST MUST PAY FOR THE TRIP. HOWEVER, FORINT-PAYABLE GROUP TOURS TO THE U.S., SPONSORED BY OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN TRAVEL AGENCIES, ARE ON THE INCREASE IN 1977. SEE (F) BELOW.

B) NUMBER OF AMERICAN VISITORS TO HUNGARY LAST SIX MONTHS OF 1976: 40,100.

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C) NO CHANGE.
D) NO CHANGE.
E) NO CHANGE.

F) AS OF JANUARY 1977 HUNGARIANS VISITING WEST
MAY PURCHASE FT. 4000 (ABOUT \$194) OF HARD CURRENCY
ONCE VERY THREE YEARS. LAST PRIVIOUS INCREASE WAS
IN APRIL 1976 FROM FT. 3300 TO 3600 (CA. \$158 TO \$173).
WHILE GOH HAS NOT SPECIFICALLY LINKED INCREASES TO CSCE,
THEY ARE NONETHELESS WELCOME. WHILE AMOUNT IS STILL
INSUFFICIENT FOR HUNGARIANS TO FINANCE WON INDIVIDUAL
PRIVATE TRAVEL TO U.S., DURING FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1977
OFFICIAL TRAVEL AGENCIES ARRANGED SOME 15 FORINT-PAYABLE,
CHARTER-FLIGHT GROUP TOURS TO U.S. FOR ABOUT 600
PARTICIPANTS. FIGURE CONTRASTS WITH MAXIMUM TWO OR
THREE SUCH TOURS ANNUALLY IN PAST. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS
DEMAND FOR SUCH TOURS IS HIGH. HOWEVER, INFORMAL
CONTACTS WITH TRAVEL OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT AVAILABILITY
OF FUTURE TOURS WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON DEGREE TO WHICH
FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES MAKE HARD CURRENCY AVAILABLE TO
ORGANIZING AGENCIES. THERE ARE CURRENTLY TWO MORE TOURS
PLANNED FOR LATE 1977; FINANCIAL STRICTURES PERMITTING,
A GREATER NUMBER OF TOURS MAY BE ORGANIZED DURING EARLY
1978 SLACK SEASON.

11. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION:

A) ACCORDING TO GOH, WHOSE FIGURES WE BELIEVE ARE
REASONABLY ACCURATE, ABOUT COPIES (300-350 EACH)
OF TIME, NEWSWEEK, AND INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE ARE
DISTRIBUTED IN HUNGARY. HALF OF THESE GO TO GOVERNMENT
SUBSCRIBERS AND THE OTHER HALF GO ON SALE TO THE PUBLIC.
AS WE HAVE NOTED IN PAST, THESE ARE GENERALLY SOLD IN
PLACES FREQUENTED BY WESTERN TOURISTS. EMBASSY HAS NO
ADDITIONAL NEW INFORMATION ON DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN
PUBLICATIONS.

B) NO CHAGE.
C) CONSENSUS OF NATO EMBASSIES IN BUDAPEST IS THAT
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THERE HAS BEEN SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT SINCE HELSINKI WITH
REGARD TO DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS PUBLICATIONS OF WESTERN
COUNTRIES OTHER THAN U.S. IN HUNGARY.

D) NO CHANGE.
E) NONE.
F) PLACEMENT OF U.S. FILMS AND RADIO ITEMS: NO
CHANGE. TV PLACEMENTS CONTINUE TO INCREASE. NATO
EMBASSY REPS IN BUDAPEST CHARACTERIZE HUNGARIAN PERFOR-
MANCE THIS SECTION AS SHOWING MODERATE TO PRONOUNCED
IMPROVEMENT SINCE HELSINKI.
G) TWO (PLUS SIX ACCOMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS)

U.S. VISAS WERE GRANTED TO HOST GOVERNMENT JOURNALISTS
FOR PERMANENT ACCREDITATION; FOR SHORTER VISITS, 14.

H) ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS REFUSED: 0.
I) ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS DELAYED MORE
THAN SIX MONTHS: 0
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Message Attributes

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